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for Posts and Telecommunications

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SOURCE

1. In late May 1953, the Ministry of Postal Services and Telecommunications planned to reorganize its administration into the Main Administration for Postal Services and the Main Administration for Telecommunications, each under a state secretary, and to assign to these administrations the Institute for Postal and Telecommunication Engineering which was still to be established and was scheduled to deal with technical problems. The personnel of the previous Main Administration for Radio Communications, which had proved unable to control effectively the manufacturing of radio equipment, was scheduled to be cut 50 percent and to be assigned as a department to the Main Administration for Communications. Gradecki (fnu) was mentioned as the probable head of the new department. About 40 members of the staff of the Main Administration for Radio Communications, who worked at the Manufacturing Plants Department, were taken over by the Ministry for General Mechanical Engineering in early July. Artur Matske and Adler (fnu), the managing directors of the Main Administration, were scheduled to be released for other appointments while Baumbach (fnu), formerly chief of the Manufacturing Plants Department, was reassigned his former subordinate position at the District Administrative Office for Postal Services and Telecommunications in Erfurt, because of inefficiency. In late 1952, two engineers of the Sachsenwerk Radeberg had applied for employment in a newly established office for decimeter wave engineering at the Ministry of Postal Services and Telecommunications, despite opposition by the management of the plant.
2. In early July, the KVP department for signal communications at the Ministry of the Interior, represented by Oberkommissar Buehring (fnu), offered the Ministry of Postal Services and Telecommunications 6,000 telephones, valued at about 360,000 eastmarks, and installations of local stations, valued at about 450,000 eastmarks. The offer was made because, in consequence of a cut of funds, the KVP was not in a position to accept the goods which had just been finished. The Ministry of Postal Services and Telecommunications was unable to buy the equipment, but the OPD (Postal District Headquarters) Berlin, under the financial control of the City Government of East Berlin, could purchase the 6,000 telephones.
3. In early July, the Ministry of Postal Services and Telecommunications was informed by the Bau Union that installations ordered for the construction projects in the Torgelow area, which had essentially been reduced, were released for postal purposes. In early July, the Department for Special Telecommunication Missions and Security Missions (FS) cancelled orders for delivery of a

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mobile long-distance switching central and a mobile local telephone central which had been placed with the telecommunication equipment plant in Arnstadt.

4. In early May, the 1953 budget was still in force for investments by the Department for Telecommunications.² In late March, the Ministers' Council appropriated a supplementary budget A, investments of 6,000,000 eastmarks of the supplementary budget of 12,000,000 eastmarks. Supplementary budget B, which involved another 6,000,000 eastmarks, was not yet completed. In April 1954, the Ministry of Postal Services and Telecommunications completed the 1954 standard investment budget which provided for 35,000,000 eastmarks for the Radio Communications Main Department and 5,000,000 eastmarks for the Telecommunications Main Administration.
5. A project for the formation of a stock of reserve materials to be used in the event of catastrophes, which had been submitted by the Ministry of Postal Services and Telecommunications to the Ministers' Council in February, was postponed in May.
6. In 1952, the state of repair of installations of the local wire net in Dresden, which included 32,000 main stations, had essentially deteriorated. The net, which had completely been destroyed during the war, was reconstructed with old materials from other telephone offices. Since the plants in East Germany had not yet started manufacturing replacement parts for old telephone systems, it was planned to purchase the required materials at the Christoph Emmerich Company at 148, Homburger Landstrasse in Frankfurt/Main, which had stated in writing to be prepared to supply the required replacement parts. No contract was made prior to March 1953.
7. Sufficient quantities of storage batteries were supplied to the switching centrals and long-distance telephone centrals due to the purchase of plates of lead at the AFA factory in Frankfurt/Main.¹
 1. Comment. Accumulatoren-Fabrik Aktiengesellschaft (AFA), Frankfurt (Main), Neue Mainzer Strasse 52.

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